

**STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)
ON EARLY INTERVENTION**

MEETING MINUTES

FRIDAY, March 28, 2003
Holiday Inn – Capitol Plaza
Sacramento, CA

ICC MEMBERS PRESENT

Raymond M. Peterson, M.D., Chair
Jim Bellotti, CDE
George Chance, DSS
Arleen Downing, M.D.
Marcy Gallagher, DMHC
Toni Gonzales
Hedy Hansen
Gretchen Hester
Rick Ingraham, DDS
Cynthia Jaynes, DADP
Lynn Lorber, OSE
Thomas McCool, Ed.D.
Beverley Morgan-Sandoz
Hallie Morrow, M.D., DHS
Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph.D.
James Queirolo, DMH
Elaine Fogel Schneider, Ph.D.
James Queirolo, DMH

ICC MEMBERS ABSENT

Sylvia Carlisle, M.D.
Michelle Douyon-Davis
Theresa Rossini

CALL TO ORDER

Raymond M. Peterson, M.D., Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
It was noted that a quorum of ICC members was in attendance.

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Peterson welcomed everyone to the meeting. ICC members, community representatives, staff, and members of the audience provided self-introductions.

Dr. Peterson acknowledged Susan Ferrell, community representative from Far Northern Regional Center, attending the ICC for the last time as she will be retiring and moving to Bali. He acknowledged Ms. Ferrell's years of dedicated service to the ICC and infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families in Northern California.

Lois Pastore announced a special event by the Special Education Early Childhood Administrators Project (SEECAP) scheduled for May 15, 2003, in Emoryville. Sharon Walsh will be providing an update on the Reauthorization of IDEA. SEECAP is also providing training events on Early Learning and the Brain on May 6 and May 8, 2003. Registration and location information is attached.

George Chance provided information about the Child Welfare Stakeholders Group Regional Community Forums. Registration and location information is attached.

AGENDA

The agenda was reviewed and approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2002 MINUTES

The minutes of the November 2002, ICC meeting were approved with one revision. The minutes were approved with the minor amendment.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Peterson announced that in spring 2002, DDS initiated amendments to the Early Start state regulations to conform to 1997 and 1999 changes in federal regulations, implementing amendments to Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and also to make clarifying, non-substantive revisions to other early intervention regulations. Several public hearings were held and the final text of the regulations was filed with the Secretary of State by the Office of Administrative Law on January 14, 2003. The regulations became effective February 12, 2003. The revised regulations are available on the DDS Early Start website at www.dds.ca.gov/EarlyStart/ESStatutes.cfm

STAFF REPORT

Cheri Schoenborn reported that the next ICC meeting would be in May at the DoubleTree Hotel – Anaheim Orange County. The government rate is available to those making reservations with the hotel by April 28, 2003. Please contact the DoubleTree Hotel directly at 1-800-222-8733. Members needing assistance with travel arrangements or to request a travel advance may contact Barbara Ferreira in DDS at 916-654-1596.

ACTION ITEMS

Four action items were presented to ICC members for a vote.

Action Item #1: Amend 2003 Meeting Schedule

Discussion: Rick Ingraham explained that in response to a Governor's directive, advisory bodies are to limit meetings to one time per year, unless otherwise mandated. Part C regulations require the ICC to meet at least quarterly. This action item proposes to cancel the ICC meeting scheduled for July 24-25, 2003.

Amendment: Change the location of the September 18-19, 2003 ICC meeting from Fresno to Sacramento.

Discussion: The Sacramento location increases the likelihood of attendance by state representatives from partner agencies given current travel restrictions.

Vote: All members voted in favor of canceling the July 2003, ICC meeting and changing the location of the September 2003, meeting from Fresno to Sacramento. There were no abstentions and no proxy votes.

Action Item #2: Revised ICC Bylaws

Discussion: Dr. Peterson explained the proposed revisions to the bylaws.

Amendment: Dr. Morrow suggested that in Article VII, Section 3 of the bylaws, the word "or" be changed to "and". A typographical error noted Article XI, Section 1 was also corrected.

Vote: All members voted in favor revising the bylaws as proposed, including the above noted amendments. There were no abstentions and no proxy votes. The revised bylaws are attached to the minutes.

Action Item #3: Election of ICC Vice Chair

Discussion: The ICC recommended designating a Vice Chair from the current membership in accordance with bylaws as revised under Action Item #2.

Amendment: Dr. Poulsen recommended the position be titled "Co-Chair" to align with the committee structure. This action was motioned and seconded.

Vote: 7 in favor, 8 against, 1 abstention, 0 proxy. The amendment was not passed.

Discussion: The ICC recommended designating a Vice Chair from the current membership.

Vote: Three members were nominated for Vice Chair. A ballot count was held. Two votes were received by proxy. The ballot count revealed Ms. Hedy Hansen had received the most votes. Ms. Hansen accepted the position as Vice Chair.

Action Item #4: Revised ICC Agenda

Discussion: The ICC recommended eliminating the Committee of the Whole, establishing an Executive Committee and assuming a new meeting agenda format. Three options were presented. The ICC agreed to vote today and also asked that this Action Item be on the May agenda for reconsideration, if necessary.

Vote: Option B was approved as the new meeting agenda format of the ICC.

Option B: Thursday	1:00PM – 4:30PM	Committee Meetings
Friday	8:00AM – 8:30 AM	Newcomers Orientation
Friday	8:30AM – 1:30 PM	Full ICC

The FRC/N and Executive Committee could be scheduled for Thursday morning or evening.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER NETWORK OF CALIFORNIA (FRCN-CA) REPORT

Linda Landry, Chair of the FRCN-CA reported on the activities of the FRCN-CA meeting held on Wednesday. The steering committee met during the first hour and discussed FRC/N participation at the California First 5 Commission Conference in April. The steering committee discussed the goal of promoting legislation to make the FRC/N Chair a voting member of the ICC. Discussion also centered on the increased need to share information and communicate with each region. The FRC/N committee meeting focused on legislation, training and membership. The business portion of the meeting included an update on the ICC structure and the effect of the proposed agenda formats on the FRC/N meeting. The meeting also included an update from Family Voices and First 5 activities. Ms. Landry reported that over 250 participants attended the FRC Annual Conference 2003 sponsored by DDS. The conference celebrated the diversity of cultures throughout California.

PUBLIC INPUT

Susan Ferrell gave a farewell message to her colleagues at the ICC. Ms. Ferrell will be retiring and relocating to the island of Bali in April.

Linda Landry provided information about parent participation on Early Start monitoring teams and shared information about her experience at Alta California Regional Center.

AGENCY REPORTS

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS (ADP)

Cynthia Jaynes reported on the impact of the state budget on ADP. ADP estimates losing approximately 36 positions from the Proposition 36 implementation and Resource Center units. Staff employed in those units are expected to transfer to existing internal vacancies. Requests for research or materials should be submitted to the ADP Resource Center by 5/20/03. If the Resource Center is eliminated, Ms. Jaynes will share appropriate surplus materials with the Early Start Resources Library.

Ms. Jaynes reported that site visits to the publicly funded Perinatal Treatment programs are continuing. Information about Early Start has been distributed to over 60 programs statewide.

Ms. Jaynes provided information about an update to the ADP web site. The Office of Perinatal Substance Abuse (OPSA) will have a sub-site with "spotlight features" and links to partner agencies. It is anticipated the OPSA web site will be on-line in mid-April.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (DMH)

James Queirolo reported that on March 20, 2003, the California First 5 Commission approved the special needs project. As part of this approval, the Infant Preschool Family Mental Health Initiative (IPFMHI) will receive \$3.5 million to be spent over the course of four years. The State First 5 Commission expects linkage to Special Needs Demonstration sites from Year 2 forward. There is also the expectation that the project will be linked to Statewide School Readiness sites over the next four years. Additional information is attached.

ICC members requested that Mr. Quierolo share DMH data regarding the number, age and diagnosis of DMH eligible children receiving EPSDT linked services and the number, age and diagnosis of children birth to 5 that are referred for IPFMHI services so that a comparison can be made between rates of program growth.

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGED HEALTH CARE (DMHC)

Marcy Gallagher provided information about the DMHC. DMHC is an innovative problem-solving and regulatory agency designed to ensure high quality health care for Californians enrolled in managed care plans. Signed into law January 1, 2000, as part of a broad managed care reform package, DMHC is working for healthy Californians and a viable and accountable managed care system.

DMHC regulates and licenses Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and some Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) in an effort to promote quality health care for the people of California. The Department is responsible for ensuring health plans comply with the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 and providing a patient complaint process.

Ms. Gallagher stated that managed care plans are typically designed to care for healthy individuals as the majority of health care benefits are provided for working adults through their employers. Health care benefits cover basic medical services and may not extend to specialized treatments tailored to specific age groups or complex conditions. Autism, which affects young children, is a diagnosis that is becoming more prevalent, however, a clear consensus on the most effective treatment does not appear to have been reached. Since treatment options for autistic children can at times be controversial, there is potential that requested services may be denied by the health plan, causing concern and frustration.

DMHC, in addition to Health Plan Oversight and Enforcement, operates an HMO Help Center to assist consumers in resolving health care issues with their managed care plans and provide referrals to community and other government health care agencies as appropriate. .

Individuals may contact the Consumer Help Line toll free at (888) HMO-2219 or TDD (877) 688-9891 for assistance. Additional information about the DMHC and services provided are available at www.dmhc.ca.gov .

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS)

George Chance reported that he has been reassigned to the Child Welfare Services Stakeholders Group Project Management Team. His immediate responsibilities will include the coordination of five Regional Community Forums. These forums are scheduled throughout California to share the CWS Redesign work and get input from community stakeholders on key aspects of the Redesign related to prevention and early intervention strategies. Mr. Chance shared the schedule and location for the forums; April 22 – San Diego Marina Village, April 28 – Children's Hospital of Central California (Madera), May 1 – Los Angeles Times Building, May 12 – Waterfront Plaza Hotel (Oakland), May 16 – Chico Leland Stanford Masonic Family Center. Additional information and registration form can be obtained on the CDSS Child Welfare Stakeholder Group web site at www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/ChildWelfa_285.htm .

Mr. Chance also shared that Cheri Schoenborn will represent DDS on the Stakeholders Group, replacing Dr. Mary Lou Hickman who recently retired from state service.

Lastly, Mr. Chance shared that CDSS, in partnership with the Foundation Consortium, Casey Family Programs, Stuart Foundation, and the California Endowment, hosted a statewide video conference: ***Bold Changes: A Shared Responsibility for Children and Families*** on March 12. The host site was Sacramento with satellite sites in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Costa Mesa, and San Diego. George explained that the purpose of the conference was to discuss strategies for improving the child welfare system in California and explore an expanded role for the broader community to play for the protection of children.

LEAD AGENCY - DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (DDS)

Rick Ingraham reported that Governor Gray Davis has proclaimed the month of March 2003 as "Early Start Month" in honor of the California Early Start Program. "Our most precious resource is our children," Governor Davis said. "The educational investment we make in them today will strengthen California for the future." The proclamation can be viewed on the DDS web site at www.dds.ca.gov/EarlyStart/ESMonth.cfm.

DDS Budget Hearings are underway in the California State Assembly and the Senate. One of the proposals being considered involves parental co-pay for regional center services. It is not anticipated that this would affect the birth to three year-old population, as it would require statutory and regulatory changes.

Mr. Ingraham reported that Inland Regional Center is scheduled for a monitoring visit April 8 – 10, 2003. Mr. Ingraham encouraged ICC members and community representatives to participate as a monitoring team member to gain a comprehensive understanding of Early Start.

Mr. Ingraham provided information on upcoming Early Start personnel development and training events. The *Service Coordination Institute: Foundations* is scheduled for April 22–24, 2003, in Fresno. CDE, in collaboration with DDS, is sponsoring a special training event, *Reauthorization of IDEA, It's impact on Part C (infant-toddler) and Part B (preschool) Programs and Services*. The training is scheduled for May 15, 2003 in Emeryville. Early Start scholarship funds and training grants are available through DDS' contract with WestEd, under the CEITAN project. The status of the scholarship fund is attached.

DDS has released *Autism Spectrum Disorders: Best Practice Guidelines for Screening, Diagnosis, and Assessment* to provide professionals, policymakers, parents and others with detailed "best practice" recommendations and rationale for screening, evaluating and assessing individuals suspected of having autistic spectrum disorders. Training sessions for regional centers were launched in June 2002, and will be expanded to include health plan providers.

Information was provided about the status of the program advisory on the Adoption Assistance Program (AAP). DDS continues to work with CDSS toward an agreement regarding each agency's responsibility in determining the amount of subsidy a potential adoptive family may receive to assist with the adoption of a special needs child served by a regional center.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (CDE)

Jim Bellotti reported on February 25, 2003, the United States Department of Education (USDOE) announced four principles that will be used in seeking the reauthorization of IDEA. These principles are:

1. Stronger Accountability for Results – Under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation states are responsible for a single accountability system. Special education students must have access to the core curriculum and are included in the state's accountability system.

2. Simplify Paperwork for States and Communities and Increase Flexibility for All Unnecessary paperwork should be eliminated and time should be focused on student results. States and local education agencies given more flexibility in providing services to students. The reauthorization of IDEA should improve the existing dispute resolution process by stressing mediation and permitting the use of binding arbitration for both parents and school districts. IDEA should also simplify the complexities of discipline requirements.

3. Doing What Works – Research based practices that have been proven to help students with disabilities learn should be part of the instructional program. Schools should be supported in their efforts to focus on early intervention. Families and teachers should be provided with information on effective programs that are based on rigorous research.

4. Increase Choices and Meaningful Involvement for Parents – IDEA should expand and promote opportunities for parents, schools, and teachers to choose appropriate services and programs for students with disabilities including charter and private schools of their choice. States should measure and report academic achievement results for all students supported by funding through IDEA, regardless of what school they attend.

Mr. Bellotti provided ICC members and community representatives with data requested at the November 2002, meeting. The table *Special Education Enrollment by Age and Disability Statewide Report* is attached.

The Special Education Division website has been updated to include new information on:

- The USDOE's Principles for Reauthorizing IDEA
- A Summary of Special Education Law Changes in 2002
- The 25th Edition of the Composite of Special Education Laws

Mr. Bellotti reported that Assembly Member Gene Mullin introduced Assembly Bill 328 on February 7, 2003, to stop additional IDEA funds from being used to offset the State General Fund. The Governor's Proposed FY Budget uses \$115.6 million of additional funds received through IDEA to offset general Fund costs. The Governor vetoed a similar measure (AB 1907) last year.

Senate Bill X1 18 by Senator Wes Chesboro, reduces K-12 and higher education funding this year. In this bill, reductions for special education total \$210 million and \$3.8 million from CDE for early education programs. These are not permanent reductions, but payments deferred to fiscal year 2003-04. The effect is to rescind the June 2003

apportionment so that it doesn't count toward the current year Proposition 98 allocations. This bill was chaptered by the Secretary of State on March 18, 2003.

Mr. Bellotti reported that Senator Dede Alpert introduced Senate Joint Resolution 11 on March 5, 2003. This resolution regarding the need for the federal government to fully fund the 40 percent authorized level for special education programs. Once the resolution is adopted it will be sent to the President, Vice President and specific members of Congress.

Mr. Bellotti reported that special education state grants under Part B of IDEA were increased by \$1.4 billion over fiscal year 2002. California should receive over \$140 million in increased Part B funds.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (DHS)

Dr. Hallie Morrow provided a brief update on the impact of the Governor's Budget on DHS Children's Medical Services (CMS) Branch programs. California Children's Services (CCS) physicians will retain the 39% bump in provider rates, however, there is uncertainty about the specifics as the base rate is yet undetermined. The proposed decrease in Medi-Cal rates will go into effect in October, 2003.

Information was provided about the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) Gateway project. CHDP is a preventive health program serving California's children and youth. Many children and teens in California, especially those in low-income families, have unmet health needs. Through the CHDP Gateway program, child or family's eligibility for Healthy Families or Medi-cal will be assessed and expedited, thereby creating a 'gateway' to on-going medical care. Highlights, features and provider access requirements are attached in CHDP Provider Information Notice No.: 03-01.

Dr. Morrow also provided information about continuing education for nurses, occupational and physical therapists who view the video "The Medical Evaluation of the Child With Cerebral Palsy" by James Boyd, M.D., and successfully complete a post test. The purpose of the video is to provide a convenient method for professionals to gain skills in the medical evaluation of children with Cerebral Palsy and thereby improve the quality of services to the children in the CCS Medical Therapy Program. Additional information is attached.

Dr. Morrow provided an update on the Newborn Hearing Screening Program (NHSP). Miller Children's Hospital in Long Beach will continue to serve as the interim NHSP Hearing Coordination Center (HCC) for southern California. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was released to select a long-term contractor(s) by competitive bid process to serve two regions in the southern California area. Proposals are due by April 7, 2003. As of March 1, 2003, 138 hospitals have been certified and screening provided to 300,000 babies.

Legislative information was provided on several bills being reviewed by CMS:

- SB 174 (Scott) would require health care service plans and health insurers to provide coverage, up to \$1,000, for hearing aids, as defined, to all enrollees and

subscribers under 18 years of age. The bill would provide that the coverage would not apply to certain types of insurance.

- SB 606 (Vasconcellos) requires that, upon the performance of the pupil vision appraisal required under current law, parents/guardians receive a notice and questionnaire containing specified information.
- AB 636 (Frommer) requires the Director of Health Services to establish, within DHS, an Autism Assistance Clearinghouse Office, and to appoint an Advocate for Families of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders to head the office. The duties of the office would include developing educational and informational guides for families with autistic children and serving as a clearinghouse of information related to autism.
- AB 292 (Yee) would prohibit any program that receives state funding, from using any child as a translator or interpreter in any matter involving the business or and have an established procedure for provided competent interpretation services that does not involve the use of children.

Dr. Morrow reported that CCS programs will no longer exempt Native American Indian families from CCS financial eligibility. These families must meet the CCS Program financial eligibility requirements unless they meet one of the valid reasons for not requiring a financial eligibility determination. Additional information is attached in Number Letter 12-1202.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.